

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION**

ANDREW CORZO, SIA HENRY, ALEXANDER LEO-
GUERRA, MICHAEL MAERLENDER, BRANDON
PIYEVSKY, BENJAMIN SHUMATE, BRITTANY
TATIANA WEAVER, and CAMERON WILLIAMS,
individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Case No. 1:22-cv-00125

Plaintiffs,

v.

Hon. Matthew F. Kennelly

BROWN UNIVERSITY, CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO,
THE TRUSTEES OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IN
THE CITY OF NEW YORK, CORNELL
UNIVERSITY, TRUSTEES OF DARTMOUTH
COLLEGE, DUKE UNIVERSITY, EMORY
UNIVERSITY, GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, THE
JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY, MASSACHUSETTS
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, NORTHWESTERN
UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME DU
LAC, THE TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
PENNSYLVANIA, WILLIAM MARSH RICE
UNIVERSITY, VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY, and
YALE UNIVERSITY,

Defendants.

**JOINT STATUS REPORT REGARDING THE MARCH 14, 2025 MINUTE ENTRY
PERTAINING TO SETTLEMENT CLASS MEMBER'S REQUEST TO FILE A LATE
CLAIM**

March 18, 2025

In accordance with the Court’s Order on March 13, 2025 (ECF No. 814), Settlement Class Counsel and Counsel for Cornell University submit this Joint Status Report concerning a Settlement Class member’s communication with the Court, dated March 13, 2025 (“Class Member Communication”) (ECF No. 815). The Settlement Class Member at issue, a Cornell University alumnus (hereinafter, the “Cornell Alumnus”), asserts that while he received notice via email of the settlements with Caltech and Johns Hopkins (the “Fourth Tranche Settlements”) on February 22, 2025, he did not receive initial notice or notice of the claim form for the settlements with Brown University, University of Chicago, Columbia University, Dartmouth College, Duke University, Emory University, Northwestern University, Rice University, Vanderbilt University, and Yale University (the “first ten settlements”). He requests that the Court permit him to submit a late claim relating to the first ten settlements because of this alleged lack of notice.

However, Settlement Class Counsel’s investigation revealed that the Cornell Alumnus in fact received actual notice of the first ten settlements. Following this Court’s March 13, 2025 Minute Entry, Settlement Class Counsel promptly contacted Angeion, the Settlement Claims Administrator, to look into the matter. Angeion determined that, on March 29, 2024, the Cornell Alumnus was provided initial notice of the first ten settlements via email at the same email address at which the Cornell Alumnus received notice of the Fourth Tranche Settlements. *See* March 18, 2025 Decl. of Steven Weisbrot (“March Weisbrot Decl.”) ¶ 8. The Cornell Alumnus was then provided with and received notice of the claim form on September 15, 2024 at that same email address. *See* March Weisbrot Decl. ¶ 10. Angeion uses a service that allows it to track email delivery, opens, and clicks with a high rate of accuracy. *Id.* ¶ 14. Angeion’s data reflects that the Cornell Alumnus opened the initial notice of the first ten settlements at 4:32:57

p.m. ET on March 29, 2024 (the day the initial notice of the first ten settlements was delivered to his email inbox). He then both opened the claim form notice for the first ten settlements and clicked on the hyperlink to the settlement website at 9:23:47 am ET on September 15, 2024 (the day the claim form notice relating to the first ten settlements was delivered to his inbox). *Id.* ¶¶ 8, 10. Thus, the Cornell Alumnus's claim that he did not receive notice of the first ten settlements is contradicted by the information maintained by Angeion.

Settlement Class Counsel and Counsel for Cornell maintain that the notice program for the first ten settlements was robust and far exceeds the standards required by Rule 23 and the due process clause. *See* February 24, 2025 Joint Status Report Regarding Minute Entry Pertaining to Settlement Class Notice (ECF No. 793) ("February 24, 2025 JSR") at 7-8. The notice program for the first ten settlements included: direct email notice to the Settlement Class Members via contact information provided by all Defendants,¹ a social media campaign, a paid search campaign, issuance of several press releases, and extensive free media coverage. *Id.* at 2-5. Settlement Class Counsel surmise that what is happening with regard to the Cornell Alumnus and several other Settlement Class Members is the inevitable result of sending out two waves of email notices (the first for the first ten settlements and the second for the Fourth Tranche Settlements) to hundreds of thousands of people separated by approximately six months. People sometimes do not read or remember all of their emails. It is for this reason that Settlement Class Counsel proposed an extended deadline of either March 14, 2025 or March 28, 2025 to give Settlement Class Members somewhere between an additional two and four weeks to file a claim. *See Id.* at 9.

¹ Where emails were deemed invalid, Angeion provided direct mailed notice via first-class mail to the address provided, or, if the address was reflected as changed in the National Change of Address Database, the most recent available address. *Id.* at 3. If the mailed notices were returned as undeliverable, Angeion performed skip tracing to try to determine the Settlement Class member's most recent address. *Id.*

Because several weeks have now passed, Settlement Class Counsel would propose that the extended deadline be two weeks from the date of the March 20, 2025 status conference—April 3, 2025. Should the Court agree with Settlement Class Counsel's prior proposal in the February 24, 2025 JSR to extend the claims filing deadline for the first ten settlements, Settlement Class Counsel will consider the Cornell Alumnus's claim with respect to the first ten settlements, along with the approximately 7,900 other late claims already received, as timely submitted.

Dated: March 18, 2025

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